

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 04831 01 OF 02 121716Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07

SCI-06 OMB-01 AID-20 PM-07 AGR-20 DRC-01 MC-02 SS-20

L-03 DODE-00 /154 W

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R 121547Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2077

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MEXICO 4831

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL ON GOM REQUIREMENTS  
FOR 1974-1975 CAMPAIGN

REF: A. MEXICO 4359; B. STATE 119661

DEPARTMENT PASS DEA HQS EO1 MR. CUSACK, FOR ADMINISTRATOR  
BARTELS.

1. SUMMARY: ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA AND DEPUTY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL ROSALES MIRANDA MET WITH DEA REGIONAL  
DIRECTOR EYMAN, DRD HEATH AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT ALBERTI  
EVENING OF JUNE 7. MAIN SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION WAS  
WASHINGTON RESPONSE (REF B) TO GOM "SHOPPING LIST", SUBMITTED  
REF A. EMBASSY SUPPLIED AG WITH WORKING PAPER ADAPTED  
ALMOST VERBATIM FROM REF B. ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS, AS  
MIGHT BE EXPECTED, PLEASED AND ENTHUSIASTIC OVER VERY  
FORTHCOMING USG RESPONSE, AND FOR THE MOST PART SIMPLY  
ENDORSED THE IDEAS PROPOSED BY WASHINGTON. HE DID HAVE  
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 04831 01 OF 02 121716Z

SOME COMMENTS, HOWEVER, AND THE SUBJECTS COVERED AT THE

MEETING ARE DISCUSSED  
BELOW, TAKEN SERIATIM FROM  
REF B. END SUMMARY.

2. A. PROJECT "COMPASS TRIP"

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AGREED THAT THE FIRST STEP WAS TO TRAIN THE 5-9 TECHNICIANS. HE ALSO AGREED, RELUCTANTLY, THAT THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF "COMPAS TRIP" SHOULD AWAIT THE EXPERIENCE GAINED IN THE 1974-1975 CAMPAIGN. BUT WHILE AGREEING, HE SAID, HE WANTED TO POINT OUT THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER PLANNING NOW FOR EXPANSION TO BE PREMATURE. FOR THAT MATTER, HE DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WAS PROPERLY SPEAKING A "MIX" BETWEEN "COMPASS TRIP" ELEMENTS AND GROUND ERADICATION ELEMENTS, IN THAT EACH REALLY OPERATED INDEPENDENTLY OF THE OTHER. EVEN IF THE EQUIPMENT NOT AVAILABLE NOW, AG THOUGHT ENOUGH ADDITIONAL TECHNICIANS SHOULD BE TRAINED TO FORM TWO TEAMS; THAT WOULD PROVIDE NECESSARY BACKUP TO ALLOW FOR ATTRITION, VACATIONS, ETC. HE DID NOT YET KNOW IF GOM HAD SUITABLE AIRCRAFT FOR USE IN "COMPASS TRIP", BUT SAID HE WOULD MAKE ONE AVAILABLE IF ONE EXISTED. USG REPS REPLIED THAT IN INTERESTS OF SAVING TIME (EVEN IF GOM HAD SUITABLE AIRCRAFT, WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME TO FIT IT OUT PROPERLY), USG WOULD SUPPLY THE AIRCRAFT FOR USE WITH THE FIRST SET OF EQUIPMENT. THEN IF GOM LATER CAME UP WITH ITS OWN AIRCRAFT IT COULD BE USED AS BACKUP FOR THE FIRST TEAM, WITH POSSIBLE FULL-TIME USE IF ONE OR MORE ADDITIONAL SETS OF EQUIPMENT EVENTUALLY FOUND NECESSARY AND APPROVED BY WASHINGTON. IN KEEPING WITH ABOVE WE RECOMMEND: (1) BECAUSE A BACKUP SYSTEM IS MOST DESIRABLE, USG SERIOUSLY CONSIDER EVENTUAL PROVISION OF ONE OR MORE ADDITIONAL SETS OF EQUIPMENT; (2) USG PLAN NOW TO TRAIN SUFFICIENT MEXICAN PERSONNEL FOR TWO FULL TEAMS (I.E., A TOTAL OF 12-18, WE SHOULD JUDGE); AND (3) WE SUPPLY THE AIRCRAFT FOR THE FIRST SET OF EQUIPMENT, WHETHER OR NOT GOM LOCATES A SUITABLE AIRCRAFT LATER ON.

B. REPLACEMENT HELICOPTERS

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 04831 01 OF 02 121716Z

THE AG AGREED.

C. FORWARD BASES

THE AG SAID WE WOULD MEET AGAIN BY JUNE 14, AT WHICH TIME GOM WOULD HAVE ITS REPORT (BY CAPT. VIDEZ AND LIC. MANCERA) READY FOR PRESENTATION, AND WOULD BE READY TO FIX TIME-TABLE AND TARGET DATES FOR FURTHER STAFF WORK IN THIS AREA.

WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON MAINTAIN OPEN MIND RE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING TO MEXICO DEA EXPERT ON FORWARD BASES; IF THE GOM REPORT IS THOROUGH ENOUGH IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY TO BRING ANYONE FROM US TO DISCUSS FORWARD BASE CONCEPT WITH GOM.

D. CESSNA AND STOL AIRCRAFT

THE AG AGREED.

E. HELICOPTERS FOR TWO NEW SECTORS

THE AG WENT ALONG WITH IDEA THAT FURTHER ANALYSIS OF THE SEAM EXPERIENCE WAS NECESSARY. HE GAVE THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARA 6, REF B: (1) YES, GOM CAN AND WILL PREPARE MAP SHOWING THREE PROPOSED REGIONS (HE PREFERS "REGIONS" TO "SECTORS"). (2) AG COULD NOT TELL US HOW MANY AIRCRAFT WOULD BE NEEDED; THAT WILL OBVIOUSLY AWAIT FURTHER GOM STAFF WORK AND CONSULTATION WITH DEA AIRCRAFT SPECIALIST. (3) YES, MOST MAINTENANCE, STORAGE AND BASE FACILITIES ARE ALREADY IN PLACE. (4) THE MIXTURE SEEN BY THE AG INVOLVES MORE HELICOPTERS, EACH CARRYING 1 MFJP AGENT AND THE REST SOLDIERS; THIS WILL THEREFORE PROBABLY BE ABOUT SAME MIX AS THAT USED IN SEAM. (5) THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT MFJP PERSONNEL, BECAUSE (A) MFJP TRAINING INSTITUTE WILL BEGIN OPERATING THIS JULY AND WILL INCREASE MFJP COMPLEMENT BY 100 OR MORE AGENTS; (B) ADDITIONAL AGENTS CAN BE SENT ON TDY TO ACTIVE REGIONS. (6) MORE MEXICAN ARMY PERSONNEL WILL NOT BE REQUIRED, BECAUSE USE OF ADDITIONAL HELICOPTERS WILL MAKE MORE EFFICIENT THOSE TROOPS ALREADY COMMITTED. (7) THE MFJP CAN PROVIDE AN EXPANDED INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY, BUT THIS WILL BE NEEDED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 MEXICO 04831 01 OF 02 121716Z

PRIMARILY IN URBAN CENTERS SUCH AS GUADALAJARA; CROP DESTRUCTION DOES NOT REQUIRE MUCH SOPHISTICATED INTELLIGENCE, THE AG ADDED.

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 04831 02 OF 02 121726Z

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2078

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 MEXICO 4831

THE AG AGREED THAT WE SHOULD BEGIN TO PLAN NOW FOR  
EVENTUAL HELICOPTER EXPANSION AND OF COURSE SUPPORTED  
CONTINUED CLOSE USG/GOM CONSULTATION ON THIS SUBJECT.  
HE ORDERED THAT THE GOM STUDY OF AND REQUEST FOR  
AN EXPANDED HELICOPTER PROGRAM BE READY BY AUGUST 1.

THE AG EXPRESSLY ASKED THAT WASHINGTON BE INFORMED  
THAT HE PLANNED A VERY STRONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN  
IN 1974-75 AND 1975-76. TO SUPPORT THIS HE NEEDS MORE  
HELICOPTERS. HE MADE IT PLAIN THAT HE WAS VERY CON-  
CERNED ABOUT THE LARGE QUANTITIES OF MARIJUANA GROWN  
IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN REGIONS, AS WELL AS THE  
OPIUM POPPY PRODUCTION WHICH IS APPARENTLY INCREASING  
IN THOSE AREAS. HE SAID HE KNOWS VERY WELL THAT THE  
USG IS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN HEROIN PROBLEM AND  
HENCE IN OPIUM POPPY DESTRUCTION; BUT WE MUST UNDER-  
STAND HIS PROBLEMS AS WELL, AND MUST REALIZE THAT THE  
FLOURISHING MARIJUANA TRADE AND ATTENDANT LAWLESSNESS  
POSE VERY SERIOUS THREAT TO MEXICO. HE POINTED OUT THAT  
SAME PRODUCERS AND TRAFFICKERS ARE OFTEN IN BOTH OPIUM  
AND MARIJUANA BUSINESS, AND THAT OBVIOUSLY AN INCREASE OF  
HELICOPTERS IS NEEDED TO COMBAT BOTH ILLICIT CROPS. AS  
MENTIONED BEFORE, OPIUM AND MARIJUANA ARE NOT VERY  
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 04831 02 OF 02 121726Z

COMPETITIVE IN TERMS OF GROWING SEASON, SO SAME HELICOPTERS  
CAN BE USED AGAINST BOTH. FURTHERMORE, ACTIVATION OF TWO  
"NEW" REGIONS WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL HELICOPTERS IF  
THOSE NOW ASSIGNED PERMANENTLY TO SINALOA-SONORA-CHIHUAHUA  
AREA (INCLUDING SIX 212'S) ARE TO REMAIN IN PLACE.

F. SPARE PARTS

THE AG EXPRESSED COMPLETE AGREEMENT.

G. FUEL

GOM SPENT DOLS 112,829 DOLLARS ON FUEL (BOTH AVGAS AND TURBOSINA) DURING JANUARY-MAY 1974 CAMPAIGN. THIS PAID FOR 1,307,955 LITERS OF FUEL AND INCLUDES DOLS 1,087 DOLLARS IMPORT TAX ON 577 LITERS OIL.

GOM ESTIMATES, IF NO NEW AIRCRAFT ADDED, THAT 1974-75 FUEL BILL WILL RUN ABOUT DOLS 160,000 DOLLARS. THIS VERY APPROXIMATE AND WOULD OF COURSE INCREASE AS NW HELICOPTERS AND AIRCRAFT AR ADDED ON.

H. PILOT AND MECHANICS TRAINING

REQUEST FOR PILOT AND MECHANIC TRAINING TRANSMITTED REFTEL A DID ALLOW FOR INCREASED NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT. AS OF NOW, GOM REQUIRES TRAINING FOR 5 PILOTS AND 7 MECHANICS. THIS CAN BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WHEN MR. BRANDT COMES TO MEXICO WEEK OF JUNE 17.

I. ARMS AND AMMUNITION

ATTORNEY GENERAL AGREED ON PROPRIETY OF SUBSTITUTING US-MADE ARMS, AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT NUMBERS OF WAPONS REQUESTED WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO ARM EACH MFJP AGENT WORKING NARCOTICS. ACCORDINGLY, WE AGREE ON FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

150 SMITH AND WESSON MODEL 59 AUTOMATIC PISTOLS, 9 MM., 14 SHOT.

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 04831 02 OF 02 121726Z

150 MACHINEGUNS. WE BELIEVE BOTH FAL AND M-14 RIFLES TOO LONG AND HEAVY FOR RUGGED TERRAIN AND SHORT-RANGE NEEDS. WE THEREFORE TENTATIVELY RECOMMEND SMITH AND WESSON 99 MM SUBMACHINEGUNS WITH SELECTOR SWITCH, BUT LEAVE FINAL CHOICE OF MOST SUITABLE WEAPON UP TO WASHINGTON EXPERTS. (SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT MFJP AGENTS IN FIELD ACCOMPANIED BY RIFLE-TOTING SOLDIERS).

15 SHOTGUNS, RIOT-TYPE, FOR USE IN URBAN AREAS AND IN RELEVANT TRAINING AT MFJP INSTITUTE.

J. EQUIPMENT FOR PILOTS AND MFJP ON GROUND

THE AG SAID HE HAD NOT YET MET WITH GENERAL CUENCA DIAZ TO DISCUSS EQUIPPING MILITARY ASSIGNED TO CROP DESTRUCTION BUT THAT HE REALIZES USG IS READY TO REIMBURSE GOM WHEN AND IF THIS CAN BE EFFECTED. HE OF COURSE AGREES THAT HIS PEOPLE WILL BE IN CLOSE CNTACT WITH DEA MEXICO IN ORDER TO DRAW UP DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING QUIPMENT FOR PILOTS, FLIGHT CREWS AND MFJP GROUND PERSONNEL; HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT MUCH FOOD AND EQUIPMENT (EXCLUSIVE OF UNIFORMS) COULD BE TURNED OVER TO SOLDIERS AT FORWARD BASES ON HIGHLY INFORMAL BASIS.

3. AGREEMENT ON TURNOVER OF "COMPAS TRIP" EQUIPMENT WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL. JOVA

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